



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
375 Jackson Street, Suite 600  
St. Paul, MN 55101-1854

*Helping People  
Help the Land*

Phone: (651) 602-7900  
FAX: (651) 602-7914

---

**Transmitted via Email**

February 3, 2006

MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 300-6-17

**SUBJECT: CRP – CRP GENERAL SIGN-UP AND CRP CONTRACT RE-ENROLLMENTS  
AND EXTENSIONS**

Purpose. To provide information about CRP.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2006

FSA has announced the next General Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) sign-up dates as March 27 through April 14. It is expected that existing participants with contracts that expire on September 30, 2006, and new lands will be allowed to submit new application offers. Also announced was the process for participants with contracts that expire on or after September 30, 2007 to re-enroll or extend their contract.

Participants who have CRP contracts scheduled to expire in 2007 will have a one-time opportunity to re-enroll or extend their contracts. Determinations about whether participants are offered contract extensions or re-enrollments (REX) will be based on a national formula which includes the location of offers in CRP priority areas and the CRP environmental benefit index score (excluding cost) used to rank offers at the time of enrollment.

Producers with contracts that were scored in the highest 20% ranking will be offered the opportunity to re-enroll in a new 10- or 15-year contract. Contracts with acres devoted to the CP23, Wetland Restoration practice, will be offered 15-year contracts all other top ranked contracts will be offered 10-year contracts.

Producers with contracts that have scores in each of the next lower 20% ranking groups will be offered extensions based on the following:

- Greater than 20% to 40% are offered 5-year contract extensions
- Greater than 40% to 60% are offered 4-year contract extensions
- Greater than 60% to 80% are offered 3-year contract extensions
- Greater than 80% to 100% are offered 2-year contract extensions

No extensions will be approved that would have a duration exceeding 15 years in total. Extensions will be reduced as necessary so a contract's length will not exceed 15 years in total. Provisions will be applied for counties at or approaching the 25% cropland limitation for CRP acreage.

REX offers will be mailed by FSA to eligible participants on February 13, 2006 and the landowners must notify FSA of their intentions by April 14, 2006. FSA will be completing compliance reviews for all requests and must collect an upfront compliance review fee.

All landowners eligible for re-enrollment or contract extensions will also be able to simultaneously submit offers on those portions of their contract that are eligible for Continuous CRP and CREP.

At this time we think NRCS responsibilities will be limited to developing new conservation plans for lands to be re-enrolled. We will also be responsible for all conservation planning and technical assistance related to CCRP and CREP offers made during this process. Detailed guidelines for NRCS responsibilities regarding REX will be issued at a further date.

Any questions regarding this bulletin should be directed to Ginger Kopp, State Forester, or Mark Oja, State Biologist.

/s/

WILLIAM HUNT  
State Conservationist

DIST: ASTC (FO)  
FO  
Greg Anderson, FSA, St. Paul, MN